



Jared Golden
Congress of the United States
2nd District of Maine

February 2, 2022

Senator Susan Deschambault
Senate Chair
Committee on Criminal Justice
and Public Safety
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Representative Charlotte Warren
House Chair
Committee on Criminal Justice
and Public Safety
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Chair Deschambault, Chair Warren, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to share my strong support for L.D. 1861, “An Act To Establish the Safe Homes Program,” introduced by Chair Deschambault and Representative Pickett. If passed, this bipartisan legislation would promote responsible gun ownership and educate Mainers about gun safety.

L.D. 1861 would help to ensure that gun owners are not prevented from taking steps to safely secure their firearms because of an issue of affordability or lack of knowledge and information about safe storage options. In Maine and across the country we too often hear about serious injuries and deaths caused by firearms that were easily accessed by children or individuals in a mental health crisis. These tragedies can be prevented by providing families with the resources and education about ways to safely store their firearms to protect their loved ones and their communities.

That is why earlier this year, I introduced legislation mirroring L.D. 1861 in Congress. The *Responsible Ownership of Firearms Act* in Congress, which would provide \$50 million in grants to organizations partnering with local, state, or tribal law enforcement agencies to distribute gun safety kits, including firearm locking devices, and educational materials promoting safe and responsible gun ownership, safe firearm storage and firearm safety. My bipartisan bill has earned the support of the Sportsman’s Alliance of Maine and state law enforcement organizations.

At a time when partisanship often gets in the way of getting things done, L.D. 1861 demonstrates that it is indeed possible for both sides of the aisle to come together to improve gun safety while protecting the Second Amendment. As a gun owner myself, I am proud to support this legislation and urge it’s favorable consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jared F. Golden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jared" and last name "Golden" clearly distinguishable.

Jared Golden
Member of Congress